

SENATE BILL 598

E4

3lr2879

By: **Senator Carter (By Request – Baltimore County Administration)**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Violence Intervention and Prevention Program Fund – Appropriation**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the annual appropriation that the Governor is required to
4 include in the budget bill for the Maryland Violence Intervention and Prevention
5 Program Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Violence Intervention and
6 Prevention Program Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 4–902

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 4–902.

16 (a) There is a Maryland Violence Intervention and Prevention Program Fund.

17 (b) The purpose of the Fund is to:

18 (1) support effective violence reduction strategies by providing competitive
19 grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to fund evidence–based health
20 programs or evidence–informed health programs; and

21 (2) evaluate the efficacy of evidence–based health programs or
22 evidence–informed health programs funded through the Fund.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) The Executive Director shall administer the Fund in consultation with the
2 Council.

3 (d) (1) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of
4 the State Finance and Procurement Article.

5 (2) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately and the
6 Comptroller, in conjunction with the Executive Director, shall account for the Fund.

7 (e) (1) The Fund consists of:

8 (i) money appropriated in the State budget to the Fund;

9 (ii) investment earnings of the Fund; and

10 (iii) money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the Fund.

11 (2) [(i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Governor may
12 annually appropriate up to \$10,000,000 to the Fund.

13 (ii)] The Governor shall annually include in the annual budget bill an
14 appropriation composed of at least [\$3,000,000] **\$40,000,000** in general funds to the Fund.

15 (f) (1) The Fund shall be used in the following manner:

16 (i) to support effective violence reduction strategies by providing
17 competitive grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to fund
18 evidence–based health programs or evidence–informed health programs;

19 (ii) in an amount not less than 5% but not greater than 10% of the
20 Fund, for the evaluation of the efficacy of evidence–based health programs or
21 evidence–informed health programs awarded grants through the Fund; and

22 (iii) in an amount not greater than 4% of the Fund, for the following
23 administrative costs:

24 1. oversight of the Fund;

25 2. public outreach and education about the Fund; and

26 3. technical assistance and best practice education for
27 grantees.

28 (2) The Fund may not be used to:

29 (i) supplant funding that would otherwise be available for violence
30 intervention or prevention programs; or

1 (ii) fund suppression activities by law enforcement.

2 (g) (1) The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the Fund in the same
3 manner as other State money may be invested.

4 (2) Any interest earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.

5 (h) Expenditures from the Fund may be made only in accordance with the State
6 budget.

7 (i) The accounts and transactions of the Fund shall be subject to audit by the
8 Legislative Auditor as provided in § 2-1220 of the State Government Article.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2023.